Voltron New Beginnings

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Category: Voltron Language: English Status: In-Progress

Published: 1999-08-16 09:00:00 Updated: 1999-08-16 09:00:00 Packaged: 2016-04-27 11:59:00

Rating: T Chapters: 1 Words: 6,816

Publisher: www.fanfiction.net Summary: Chapter 14 part One

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Chapter 14 part one

"Seeing through Shadows"

By: Cindra

"There have been a series of very strange fatalities occurring lately over in Orla's kingdom. It seems as though some creature of the night has been attacking many of Orla's subjects." Keith briefed his friends on the situation and they each gave him a blank look.

"What exactly is the cause of death?" Pidge was trying to figure out the killer's mind.

"Extreme loss of blood." Keith replied calmly.

"Run that by me again?! What aren't you telling us Keith!?" Lance frowned at his friend. "Exactly how are these people being killed?"

"Every victim has two marks on them."

"Where?"

"The marks are found by the jugular vein on the victims neck." Keith growled.

"No way! There is no way that what you are saying could possibly be true! He's a myth, legend, on found in really scary stories and in

some one's nightmares! There has never been any proof that he actually even existed! The other thing that your forgetting her is that he resides on Earth and Arus is one hell of a distance from there!" Lance couldn't believe what he was hearing and shouted his skepticism at Keith.

"He's right Keith we are probably dealing with some sort of copy-cat killer, who's MO is biting the victims neck and then sucking out their life's blood." Pidge surmised.

"This creature has fangs Lance, it only appears at night, and the victim does not even fight for their life." Keith waited for Lance to react to what he had just said.

"Are you trying saying that a creature of the night, like count Dracula the prince of darkness, is alive and here on Arus?" Hunk finally said something.

"All evidence is pointing in that direction, guys." Keith shrugged.

"Oh man! I would rather fight Rand, Lotor, Deven, Shaitan and all their forces, before facing someone like that." Pidge shivered.

"I'm not taking any chances, so that means that from this moment on all females on Arus will be required to wear a cross around their necks at all times." Keith was dead serious.

"Keith you can't seriously believe that..."Lance started to protest but Keith cut him off.

"No but I am not going to take any chances on the lives of the people or our family."

"We need holy water, wooden stakes, garlic, and as many cross's as we can find." Pidge fired off the weapons that they would need.

"Keith you must be getting some kind of feeling on this whole situation." Hunk frowned at his friend.

"I know that this person isn't mortal, is extremely ancient at least over 3000 years old, and is caring a serious grudge against this planet and our people." Keith focused on searching out their enemy.

"Then it is true." Lance snarled.

"He does however have a weakness he fears the hunter." Keith frowned in sheer concentration. "They also feared another warrior and that was an ancient soldier simply known as a warrior of shadows, the ninja." Keith opened his eyes and grinned at the guys.

"Wait till he gets a load of us." Lance grinned.

"Myria where are you off to?" Cassie cornered her sister in the hall.

- "I am going riding Cassie. Do I need a body guard to do that?" she snapped at her.
- "Something is bothering you and I want to know what it is." Cassie held little Matt in her arms_. _
- _*Should I tell her or would it freak her out as much has it does me*_ Myria thought to herself.
- "Out with it baby sister or I go and get big brother to get you to talk." Cassie threatened her.
- "Fine but you have to promise not to flip out on me." Myria ordered her sibling.
- "I promise not to flip out, so tell me what is wrong."
- "I keep having these dreams. It feels like I am being drawn towards someone." Myria frowned.
- "Is this about you and Pidge or something entirely different?"
- "I don't know...it's like I am being drawn to this voice. Don't get me wrong Cass I love Pidge more than anything in this galaxy, but this voice isn't his and its almost impossible for me to resist it." Myria seemed to fall into a trance like state as she spoke of her dream. "His eyes are so cold, they remind me of a ice in the winter time when you can see the frozen blue water of the lake. His eyes show how evil he is, such horrifying thoughts, and the undying thirst for his victims very soul." Myria whimpered her voice trembling as she spoke.
- "Who is this guy in your dream?" Cass had a very bad feeling about all of this.
- "Nothing living, he seems to be alive, but not among the living." Myria tried to explain.
- "Why is he haunting your dreams? What does he want from you?" Cassie felt her blood run cold when Myria stared right into her eyes and she saw the fear shining in them.
- "Me Cassie, he wants me."
- "Tell the jerk that he can't have you and that you want him to get lost!" Cassie shouted at her.
- "It's not that simple you just can't tell someone like him to go away." She glared at her sister in frustration.
- "What are you going to do Myria?"
- "I am going to kill him. He's made an error in judgement Cass, a creature like him on hunts what it can see and in my case thanks to Keith and Sheena's training he won't have a chance in hell of winning against me." Myria fingered the cross hanging from a chain on around her neck.
- "How is your training going to help against Dracula!" Cassie hissed.

- "The ninja on earth were masters of stealth and blended in with the shadows. The vampires were wary of what they couldn't see or control. The ninja reminded them of the hunters that vowed to rid the world of their existence. So they chose to leave them alone, now do you understand what I mean." Myria tried to explain what she meant.
- "You really have done your research, but why does he want you so badly?"
- "I'm a challenge to him a princess with a free spirit, and who is still untouched by her man." she hisses at her sister.
- "Yes but not for lack of trying." Cassie grinned.
- "I love Pidge and the engagement ring on my finger, proves that we are both serious about this relationship. If only I could drag him out of his lab or make big brother back off!" she hissed.
- "Myria that is not going to happen you know it and I know it."
- "I don't care! I want Pidge! I am nineteen years old and not a child anymore!" she was through with the conversation and stalked off towards the nearest exit from the castle.

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- "Keith why did you decree that all the woman of Arus are to be wearing a cross at all times?" Allura asked carefully.
- "No reason love, just call it a whim of mine." Keith spoke to her as if he were speaking to one of the girls.
- "Keith Michael Edwards! I want a straight answer and I want it now!" Allura had her hands on both her hips and was giving him the evil eye.
- Keith joined his very pregnant wife on their bed and pulled her into his arms. "Nothing is wrong sweetheart." Keith crooned.
- Allura knew him to well and was hiding something from her. "My Aunt says that count Dracula or someone like him is running lose on Arus. Could that be the reason for this decree that you made this morning?" Allura watched him for a reaction to what she was saying and winced when his expression turned from a smile to a frown in seconds.
- "Allura Danielle Edwards, I wish you would leave your detective urges to me and focus on the twins." Keith glared at her.
- "Well, someone has to keep up with you regardless of my delicate condition." she smiled patting her middle affectionately.
- "And you think that your more than a match for me do you?" Keith grinned at her.
- "Yes and don't you ever forget it." she grinned back.

- "Cassie why are you frowning?" Lance asked.
- "Myria has been having strange dreams lately." Cassie murmured softly.
- "What's so strange about that Cass the kid is a day dreamer." Lance frowned at her.
- "Do day dreams usually consist of creatures that feed on souls, creatures with fangs and that only appear during the night?"
- "WHEN DID SHE TELL ABOUT HER DREAM!" Lance demanded shouting at the top of his lungs.
- "This morning and would you please keep your voice down our son is napping in his crib." Cassie hissed at him.
- "Sorry, now I need to know what she told you." Lance forced himself to calm down.
- "She told me that this thing wants her soul and that she is going to hunt it down and kill it, because it doesn't like shadow warriors." Cassie winced when Lance looked as if he was going to blow his top.
- "He's after Myria and she plans to take him out!! Does she have any idea who she is dealing with!!" Lance tried his best not to lose his temper. "Where is she Cassie?!"
- "She's out riding gypsy." Cassie eyed him warily.
- "She went riding alone! We have to go find her!" he grabbed her arm and headed for the door of their quarters.
- "Lance I am not going to just take off and leave our 6 month-old son alone." Cassie glared at him.
- Lance walked into the adjoining nursery grabbed the baby sling, settled his sleeping son in it, and the walked back to his wife. "Problem solved now lets go find Myr."
- "Lance the only one that needs to go find my sister is Pidge." Cassie hissed at him as he dragged her with him out of their quarters.
- "What about My?" Pidge stopped them in the corridor.
- "Remember the stuff that Keith was telling us this morning?" Lance started to explain the situation to him.
- "Yes, but what does that have to do with Myria!?" Pidge growled grabbing him by the lapels of his jacket.
- "Calm down Pidge I'm trying to tell you, now let go of my jacket before you wake up my son." Lance growled.
- "Sorry about that, now explain." he glared at him.
- "Myria is the main target for this creature, the other women were

just side dishes. Myria is the intended main course."

"Who told you this!" Pidge shouted at him.

"Myria told me this morning." Cassie replied softly.

"Tell me everything that she told you Cassie." Pidge ordered.

"She said that he was considered her a challenge, a free spirit, of royal blood, and because she was still untouched. She also plans on taking this guy on herself." Cassie was frightened by the look of pure fury that Pidge was giving them.

"UNTOUCHED!! That does it!! I don't care if we are married or not! I am going to go find her and then she is never leaving my side again! I will kill anyone who tries to stop me!" Pidge lost it completely and went searching for his love.

"It's about time that he finally took matters into his own hands!" Lance grinned at Cassie.

Little Matt was now awake and staring up at his father, "Dada!!" he babbled.

"That little guy was your Uncle Pidge." Lance grinned down at his son.

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"Soon my lovely Myria, soon you will be mine." Adrian growled he had only a few hours to wait before nightfall. "Your spirit is exactly what I need to live for another 500 years of ageless life without having to feed again."

"Yes but she also has a family full of shadow warriors." Lacrosse replied from the shadows.

"True, but once I have Myria under my power those fools will be no match for me." Adrian grinned evilly at the thought of making her one of them.

"We shall see Adrian, either that or your quest for vengeance will kill us all." Lacrosse muttered softly.

"Are we having doubts old friend?"

"No Adrian, but if we do end up defeated at least it will be after 3000 years of glorious terror."

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\_::What do you want from me! Why can't you just leave all of us alone?!::\_ Myria tried to block Adrian out of her mind.

\_::Now princess where would the fun in that be::\_ Adrian taunted back.

\_::I am going to make you pay with your life Adrian:: \_she hissed back.

\_\_\_

\_::That's what you think princess::\_ Adrian was highly amused by her threat.

\_\_\_

\_::We'll see who will get the last laugh.::\_ She kicked him out of her mind.

"MYRIA!" Pidge shouted.

"Pidge!" Myria shouted from her hiding place under the weeping willow tree.

"Myria if we fight anything, we fight it together." Pidge joined her under the shade of the willow tree and pulled her into his arms and kissed her until she was unable to think of anything but them.

"Whatever you say handsome." she whispered against his lips.

"I say the hell with what everyone else says." Pidge growled against her lips.

"Do you really mean it?" Myria couldn't believe that he was saying this to her.

"I love you Myr and that is not going to change, so the hell with what Keith thinks. It's time that we focused on each other for a change." He was dead serious.

"I love you so much and all I need is you and no one else to protect me." She smiled up at him.

"With my life." Pidge vowed.

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"This is not possible! She was meant to be mine!" Adrian roared furiously when the link between them was broken.

"You under estimated her consort, he obviously had other ideas of his own." Lacrosse shot back.

"I will still have her." Adrian vowed.

Before Lacrosse could say anything another voice entered their lair. "Your time in this existence is fading Adrian." Darian stepped out of the shadows. He was well over six feet tall, with dark blonde hair, piercing aquamarine colored eyes, the facial features of an aristocrat, and the body of a well-trained athlete. He was also the mirror image of Adrian and his twin.

"What brings you out of hiding little brother?" Adrian snarled at him.

- "Yes what do you want you spineless wimp." Lacrosse hissed.
- "Just because I tired of the hunt thousands of years ago, refuse to kill innocents, and loath the site of you and your pitiful clan does not make me a coward." Darian glared at Lacrosse.
- "Did he touch a nerve baby brother?" Adrian taunted him.
- "I am only going to tell you this once, because you are my twin brother. Leave Princess Mryia and her family alone." Darian snarled out his warning.
- "Since when do you give me any orders Baby brother!" Adrian snarled at him.
- "This vendetta that you have with them is ridiculous! They are from the 30th century and the ones that humiliated you were from 1998! What good does it do to go after their descendants! The happen to all be trained shadow warriors! Are you really willing to risk this entire pathetic clan of yours on a feeling that these were the ones that made you look like complete idiots all those years ago?!" Darian shouted.
- "I call it a challenge and none of your concern so go back to where ever it is that you've been hiding yourself and stay out of my way!" Adrian was through with this conversation.
- "Fine I always wanted to be an only child." with that said Darian vanished from sight.

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- "What's your real name?" Myria purred into Pidge's ear.
- "Why?" Pidge pulled her closer to him.
- "I just want to know." she blinked up at him with innocent emerald green eyes.
- "Guess." he began exploring her face with his mouth.
- "Um...let's see is it Peter?"

"No."

- "Well then is it Paul?"
- "Wrong again." he growled against her neck.
- "How about Patrick?" Myria tried to focus, but was distracted by his roving hands and mouth.
- "Bingo." he grinned up at her.
- "Where did the nickname come from?" Myria tried to keep her mind clear enough to focus on what she was thinking.
- "My size darling, I was a very short kid."

- "I'd say that you've out grown your nickname hunk of mine." she purred into his ear.
- "You turned out pretty gorgeous yourself beautiful." he ended their conversation with a long kiss and then moved onto far more urgent matters.

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- "Have either of you seen Pidge or Myria today?" Keith asked Lance and Cassie.
- "Sweetie do you remember recall seeing either of them?" Lance acted as if he had no clue as to what the two young adults in question were up to.
- "I think she went for a ride on Gypsy." Cassie tried to keep from giving herself away.

Keith narrowed his eyes at his sister sensing that she was trying to hide something from him. "Ally saw Pidge leaving the castle in an awful hurry a little while ago. Do you have either of you know where he went?"

- "Maybe he wanted to spend some quality time with Myr." Lance growled.
- "It all depends on what you mean by quality time." Keith glared at him.
- "For the love of god Keith! Why should they have to wait when none of us did!" Lance snarled back.
- "Because they know better and they promised me that they were going to wait until their wedding night!" Keith shouted back.
- "That is a bunch of bull shit and you know it! You just want to play the role of big brother and refuse to let go!"
- "Frankly Keith, she needs him with her at all times now that Dracula is after her." Cassie shouted at her brother in sheer frustration.
- "WHAT?????!!!" Keith roared furiously making Lance and Cassie flee for their very lives.

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- "Let's got berry picking by the meadow." Alex grinned at her sisters as they continued their daily ride through the forest meadow.
- "I know what Alex. Let's just say that we did and then forget about your boring idea of fun." Andy muttered to herself.
- "I say that we go berry picking." Ariel agreed with Alex.
- "Come along baby sister, you know the rules." Alex ordered Andy.
- "You know what Alexandra? For a sister of mine you sure can be a real

- drag." Andy glared at her as she raced Stormy passed them.
- "And you are way to wild to be even considered as a royal princess. "Alex shot back.
- "Nope just carrying on the family tradition, like father like daughter." Andy shouted back at her sister.
- \_\*Just once I would like to get the last word in with her! \*\_ Alex thought to herself.

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- \*\*}Dream on little Miss perfection!{\*\* Andy taunted back in her sister's mind.
- "ANDROMEDA!!!!" Alex fumed.
- "Enough Lexi you'll never win. She's just too much like Daddy and twice as stubborn." Ariel grinned as they both tried to keep up with their sister.
- "Not for long Ari, since mom is expecting twin boys. That ought to put the spot light on them and off of her." Alex grinned back.
- "Nope, Dromi will always be like Daddy, only ten times more lethal." Alex frowned when they lost sight of their sister. "Where did she disappear to?"
- "That's just great Ari now Daddy is going to yell at us for losing our baby sister! She could be any where in the forest!" Alex snarled in frustration.
- "She's also ticked off at you, so she won't want to be found. Let's go back home that way Daddy can go look for her." Ariel and Alex headed for the castle.

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Darian watched as Andy ditched her sisters and tried not to chuckle with amusement. "Hello there little one." he called out softy from his place in the shadows of a near by tree.

- "WWhoo's there?!" Andy tried not to panic when she saw no one near by.
- "Don't be frightened I won't hurt you." the strange yet soothing voice again from the shadows.
- "I'm nnot sscared." she stammered trying frantically to remember all her martial arts training, seeing as her mind had gone completely blank. _*Some hero I am! I'm being scared by the wind! *_ Andy silently berated herself.
- "I was admiring your mare, she's a real beauty." he was still not visible to her eyes.

- "Wwhhoo arre yyou?" Andy whimpered.
- "A friend."
- "Do you know my grandpa?" she frowned.
- "No, but I did meet him once, a very long time ago. He was a very honorable man." He chuckled softly_. *She's so adorable*_ he thought to himself. "Why do you ask?"
- "I was just wondering if you were a ghost like my grandpa."
- "No little blossom, I am not a ghost." he grinned at her wide-eyed expression as she glanced around for the source of the voice.
- "Why did you just call me that?" she was actually beginning to trust this whatever he was.
- "Because, little one, you are like a blossom. You want to bloom like those beautiful roses over there. Your spirit like those wild roses is beautiful yet free, only your still to little to fit into the place that you so desperately want to be." he was now sitting next to the beautiful little princess that seemed so frustrated with being so small. He still was not allowing her to see him yet.
- "Little blossom, I like that." she smiled her toothless grin, seeing as she had just recently lost her front teeth. "Are you real or are you in my magination?" she wondered out loud.
- "I am very real little blossom, would you like to see me?"
- "Yes, I'd like that very much." she bobbed her head excitedly.
- "Very well, but you have to close your eyes first." he ordered softly.
- "Okay." she giggled.
- "Okay, you may now open your eyes." he growled next to her ear.
- She stared wide-eyed at the hunk sitting next to her. "Wow! Are you a prince?" she whispered.
- "Once a very long time ago." he chuckled.
- "Can ya tell me what happened?" she asked excitedly sensing a good story.
- "Someone placed an evil spell on Me." he told her softly.
- "Were you a frog?" she asked excitedly.
- "No little blossom, I was not an enchanted frog." he laughed heartily.
- "Drat! Then what happened to not make you a prince any more?"
- "An evil brother named Adrian." he growled softly.

- "Oh an evil prince." she nodded in understanding, "Then what happened?"
- "Let's just say that I understand what you are going through with your sisters."
- "What do you mean that you understand!!" she jumped to her feet and stomped away from him. "You'd have to be a twin to understand!!!"
- "Oh little one I understand more than you will ever know." he told her softly and walked over to her.
- "No you don't!! No one does!!!" she screamed at him.
- "But I do. You see the evil prince is my twin brother."
- Andy looked up at him with her huge amber eyes filled with unshed tears. "He hurt you?" she sniffled.
- "Yes he hurt me and many more of my loved ones."
- "My sisters are a pain, but we'd never hurt each other." she still couldn't understand how a twin could turn on their other half, "Why did he do that to you?" she whimpered.
- "Little one some princes crave power over being loyal to ones kin." he tried to explain.
- "Huh?" Andy wasn't following what he was telling her.
- "Let's see if I can make this easier for you to understand." he sighed, "Adrian is like Lotor only twice as lethal."
- "Oh! So he's a really bad prince!" she frowned now that she completely understood the whole story.
- "Yes little one he is a really bad prince." he reached out and ruffled her hair affectionately.
- "Do you have a name?" she asked curiously.
- "Why yes I do and it was really rude of me not to have introduced myself to you." he grinned down at her. "I'm Darian Rohan McCloud. Now its your turn little blossom."
- "I'm Crowned Princess Andromeda Marie Edwards, but my friends call me Andy or Dromi. Would you like to be my friend?" she blinked up at him.
- "Yes little one I would like that very much."
- "Patrick did you hear something?" Myr asked softly.
- "No, What's wrong?" Patrick asked softly.

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"I thought that I hear Andy." Myria frowned.

- "Oh okay...." Patrick kissed her softly but then snapped out of his dream like state as soon as the words heard and Andy registered in his mind. "Andy? Are you sure that you heard her?" Patrick shouted jumping out of the water and then raced for his clothes.
- "Patrick! Will you calm down! I meant that I only thought that I heard my niece's voice." Myria got out of the water and then stalked over to him. It was then that she felt someone's presence. "Oh god Patrick! Andy is in trouble!" she pulled on her clothes.
- "What's going on Myria?" Patrick frowned at her.
- "I need to get to Andy!" she shouted at him, now fully dressed, and ran towards the meadow.
- "Why?!" Patrick chased after her.
- "It's him Patrick!! He's near Andromeda, only this time it's like he's different somehow!"
- "Him? You mean HIM!?" Patrick felt his blood run cold. "Wait up Myr, what makes him different?"
- "I since no evil at all in him, yet he is of their kind." she stopped dead in her tracks, as she saw Andy with Darian. He was placing a bejeweled golden medallion around her neck, on the medallion was the mark of the hunter, a beautiful cross that matched the one that he wore around his neck. (The symbol that the Hunter's used for protection.)
- "Andy its Aunt Myria come her baby!" she shouted to her niece causing Darian to turn and look at her.
- "Aunt Myria come and meet my new friend." Andy waved at her Aunt.
- "No Andy, I need you to come over here to me, so tell your friend good-bye." Myr ordered her niece.
- "It's okay Andy I'll talk to her." Darian smiled down at her.
- "I think that she's mad at you for some reason." Andy frowned.
- "I know, but I can help her little one, by showing her who I am." he took her by the hand and led her over to her Aunt. "I can explain princess, there is nothing for you worry about. I am different than the one who haunts your dreams. I am a sworn protector, as you can see by the symbol of the medallion that I wear around my neck. I can help you get my twin."
- "Why by my niece?" Myria demanded.
- "Why I was merely talking to her, your highness. She seemed to be in need of a friend and now she is under my protection." he smiled at Myria.
- Patrick wanted answers and he wanted them now. "Who the hell are you!!" snarled standing face to face with Darian.
- "Would you believe that I am an immortal." Darian replied calmly.

- "As in ever living?! Then why are you wearing that medallion with the cross on it!!?" Myria snapped.
- "Would you believe me if I told you that I was cured of the blood lust and the allergy to the sun? The only things that I haven't managed to shake are the fangs when I get angry, the super strength, the flying and I can't die." Darian had gone from smiling to dead serious.
- "Wow!" Andy squealed in delight.
- "My name is Darian Rohan McCloud. I happen to be the good guy and to show you my good faith here are two medallions, as long as you are wearing them at all times Adrian can't touch you. You on the other hand can hurt him as much as you want." Darian handed each of them a medallion.
- "Why are you here on Arus?" Myria frowned.
- "To stop my brother." Darian answered.
- "Why is he after me?"
- "You remind him of the old ones that used to hunt us and thus you pose a challenge to him."
- "Are you comparing my to a Vampire Hunter?"
- "That is exactly what I am saying."
- "Then why aren't you afraid of me?"
- "I developed a serum long ago that changed evolved me into something far beyond what I used to be. I can't die ever and that's all there is to it. I am over Three thousand years old."
- "Myria let's go." Patrick had heard enough.
- "No way Uncle Pidge this is way cool!" she tried to pull away from her Uncle.
- "I'm not even from Earth so why would I even resemble one of the ancient hunters?" Mryia still wanted answers.
- "You just are and that is all there is to it." Darian informed her.
- "That's it come on you two we're leaving before your brother comes and hunts us down." Patrick didn't want to hear anymore of what Darian wanted to say. " Now Andy where are your sisters?"
- "I don't know Uncle Pidge they never can keep up with me." she grinned up at him. "Why is Aunt Myr calling you Patrick?"
- "That's his name sweetie Pidge is his nickname." Darian explained.
- "What do you mean that you don't know where your sisters are!!"

Patrick yelled.

- "Lower your voice!" Darian snarled.
- "Yes Patrick you are upsetting Andy." Myria hissed
- "All you guys care about are Alex and Ari!!" Andy screamed at them and then bolted into the woods.
- "Andromeda Marie get back here!" Patrick roared.
- "Now I can see why she was so upset earlier this afternoon, you people never even consider her for more than five minutes." Darian was not at all pleased with Patrick.
- "That's not true! We love her, but she isn't suppose to be without them or one of her guards." Patrick growled in his defense.
- "Will you two idiots shut up! We have to get Andy before my big brother finds us!" Myria shouted at them.
- "Well, Well, Well, look what we have here!" Keith announced from his hovering Black Lion.
- "We're dead!" Patrick and Myria shouted in unison.
- "Is that Stormy?" Keith asked.
- "Why yes Keith I think that it is." Patrick replied calmly.
- "Where is my Shadow? Her sisters came back from their ride so that I could go find their baby sister." Keith growled.
- "Andy is fine Keith, she's just being a normal almost nine year-old." Myria smiled.
- "Nothing is normal about Andy, Myria." Keith landed the lion in the meadow and then walked over to them.
- "True but she sure can take care of herself." Patrick added and received a jab in the ribs from Myr.
- "I believe that this is who you were looking for." Darian grinned as  $\mbox{\sc Andy}$  appeared from the forest.
- "Andy are you alright? I think that you and I need to have a long talk." Keith told her sternly before walking over and giving his child a hug.
- "I'm fine Daddy my new friend kept me company." she smiled at her father.
- "New friend?" Keith frowned looking over at Pidge and Myria.
- "Actually Keith, Andy found us a new ally against this new threat to Arus." Patrick explained.
- "Keith meet Darian McCloud." Myria smiled as she smiled as she introduced Andy's new friend.

- "Hello your highness it is an honor to meet one of the greatest hero's in the universe." Darian extended his hand in greeting towards Keith.
- "I want some answers and I want them now!" Keith growled.
- "Your new enemy is Adrian, my twin brother. He and his minions suffer from a disease and a very violent one at that. Over three thousand years ago my brother decided that he wanted to live forever and in doing so condemned me to the same fate, so that I wouldn't hunt him down and kill him. I however after a few hundred years decided to break my curse and it took me hundreds of years to finally come up with a cure. There were however a few things that even my serum couldn't cure." Darian tried to explain the whole story.
- "Which are?" Keith growled.
- "One is the ability to fly, the second is super-natural strength, I can blend into any shadow, vanish from anyone's sight, sneak up on anything or anyone without them knowing that I'm even there, I can't die, and lastly my fangs tend to emerge when I'm angry. Other than that I am completely cured." Darian finished his explanation.
- "What your trying to say is that your serum made you into some kind of a god?" Keith arched an eyebrow at Darian in disbelief.
- "Yep that's it in a nut shell." he grinned.
- "Why here and why now?" Keith snarled.
- "The fact is that it's way to complicated for any of you to ever truly understand. Besides the fact that Adrian sees Myria as a kind of a challenge and that she reminds him of the Hunters that used to plague his existence. He also seems to hold a very nasty grudge on your family because of a series of events that happened a very long ago." Darian snarled back. I'm here to make sure that he doesn't carry out his vengeance on your family."
- "What do we have to do with something that happened in the past? And what makes you think of my baby sister as one of your hunters?" Keith was not at all pleased.
- "She can sense them and has for sometime now." Darian frowned at Myria. "She can also kill them if she is trained properly."
- "My Aunt Myria is a ninja just like Daddy." Andy declared proudly.
- "Then she is more that ready to face my brother."
- "Why Myria?!" Keith shouted.
- "Because she is special, so is your daughter Andromeda." Darian replied calmly.
- "Andy?! Now wait just one damn minute! You leave my daughter out of this! I will not have her placed in any danger and that is final!" Keith roared furiously.

- "Yes I understand how you feel, but you need to be told that Andromeda is special. She is exactly like you, but her instincts are sharper and her feelings more acute for her age. She takes everything seriously and wants to be taken seriously as well." Darian was not at all effected by the look that Keith was giving him.
- "You have no right explaining my daughter to me!"
- "Yes he does Daddy! He's my friend and he listens to me!" Andy shouted at her father.
- "I listen to you sweetie." Keith knelt down in front of his child.
- "You only listen to what you want to here!" Andy continued to shout at her father.
- "Andromeda Marie you will stop shouting at me and then I will try and listen to you, but first I want you to tell me how old you are."

  Keith remained calm and in control towards his child.
- "Almost nine." she frowned at him.
- "What does that make you?"
- "A kid I guess." Andy whimpered.
- "That is exactly right. You my darling sweet little baby girl are a child. Your only duty is to got to school and play with kids your own age."
- "But…" Andy started to protest, but her father silenced her with one look.
- "No buts little girl. You may be like me, but I won't have you lose your childhood. You have years of being an adult and I want you to please leave the bad guys to me." Keith pleaded with her.
- "Daddy I just wanna be like you." she whimpered.
- "I know that baby, but you have to trust me when I tell you that you really don't want my job." Keith picked her up in his arms.
- "I love you Daddy." Andy cuddled in his arms.
- "I love you too my little shadow." Keith kissed her forehead.
- "I think that I'm going to cry." Myria sniffled.
- "Yeah this is an historical moment." Patrick grinned.
- "Yes well if you will all excuse me, I really do need to return to my home." Darian growled softly and slowly faded into the shadows.
- "We are not done with this conversation!" Keith shouted at him.
- "Yes we are your highness, and I would suggest that you return to the castle, because my brother and his minions will be out in spades tonight." A case fell at Keith's feet. "I would also suggest that you

give these amulets to the rest of your loved ones, otherwise all hell may descend on you and you really don't want that." was the last thing that Darian said before he vanished completely.

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(Later on that evening in Orla's Kingdom.)

"Ah I do so love the taste of fresh blood, especially the blood of royalty." Adrian growled as he finished with his latest meal.

On the bed in her room was Allura's Aunt who lay motionless on the bed. There were to marks on the side of her neck which showed the cause of her death, blood was all over the pillows and sheets.

"Is this wise Adrian? Why cause this much destruction?" Lacrosse growled as he viewed what was left of Orla's room.

"She should consider this a form of punishment for sticking her nose where it didn't belong." Adrian hissed back.

"A servant or two is understandable, but THE WHOLE BLOODY CASTLE!!" Darian roared appearing in the room.

"Sorry little brother, but you have as usual missed all the fun." Adrian snarled back.

"In doing this you have sacrificed your entire clan!" Darian roared his fangs were now visible.

"No Darian, it shows this entire planet who the real power is, besides I've received a gift for myself." Adrian stood directly in front of him.

"Just what do you mean by that?!" Darian snarled at him but then he spotted a young woman _*Allana!*_

"Why Princess Allana, the queen's cousin. Isn't she one of the most beautiful creatures that you've ever seen?" Adrian eyed the girl hungrily, but she seemed to have eyes only for Darian.

"Yes she is beautiful, but no she is not the most beautiful creature that I've ever seen." Darian lied as he looked directly into Allana's eyes.

"She's mine baby brother!" Adrian hissed.

"Perhaps Adrian, maybe you should reassess the situation. She only has eyes for me." Darian challenged him.

"I claimed her! She therefore belongs to me!" Adrian lunged at him.

"I still say that she wants me. " Darian hissed.

"So you do still have the fire in your blood." Adrian growled.

"My blood my burn, but not in the way that you believe." Darian pulled the amulet from his cloak and Adrian's face froze in fear.

- "No that is not possible! You are one of us!" Adrian hissed.
- "Was one of you." Darian growled now under complete control and the rest of Adrian's clan vanished in fear.
- "Do you expect me to be impressed with that?" Adrian snarled.
- "No Adrian, I doubt that you have the intelligence." Darian smirked, but Adrian lunged for him again. Darian grabbed hold of his brother's fist and squeezed ever so slowly with all of his strength.
- "No one is stronger than me!" Adrian was on his knees in front of his brother.
- "You always did have a big ego!" Darian left him on his knees. "Oh and thanks for the lovely prize." Darian picked up the entranced princess in his arms and vanished.
- "NO!!!!!!!" Adrian roared.
- ~~~ Stay tuned for part two of Seeing Through Shadows ~~~~
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End file.